

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Approved For Release 2003/05/28 : CIA-RDP74-00390R000200020014-9  
On file GSA release instructions apply.

Army review(s) completed.

31 October 1963

Mr. Sherrod East  
Director, World War II Records Division  
National Archives and Records Service, GSA  
King and Union Streets  
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mr. East:

The Central Intelligence Agency cannot concur in declassification of the enclosed OSS and SSU documents transmitted with your memorandum of 9 July 1963. The documents have been reviewed at the highest levels of immediate concern, and I regret that your request must be denied on the ground that, along with other valid reasons, declassification and release at this time would not be in the best interests of the United States Government.

Sincerely yours,



CIA Records Administration Officer

Enclosures

DDS/RAO/



(25 Oct '63)

STAT

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## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

JL/SY 4C44

18 Oct 63

25X1

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

2.

3.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

To: 4

Copy of my memo

25X1

P.S. - We sent  
you extra copy  
if you wish to  
forward same  
to National Archives  
in support of your  
reply to them.  
J97.



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18 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] CIA Records Administration  
Officer/DDS  
VIA: [redacted] CIA Classification Control  
Officer

SUBJECT: Request by Sherrod East, Director, WW II Records Division, National Archives and Records Services, GSA, for declassification and release of Interrogation Reports of the ART LOOTING INVESTIGATION UNIT, OSS and SSU, as itemized in an inventory attached to the reference.

REFERENCE: Letter from Sherrod East to [redacted] and attachments thereto dated 9 July 1963.

Review of these subject documents has been made at the highest levels of immediate concern and the decision has been concurred in that the request must be denied on the ground that, along with other valid reasons, declassification and release at this time would not be in the best interests of the United States Government.

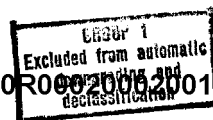
Returned herewith is all material received by you from National Archives per inventory.

[redacted]  
Executive Secretary  
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT

Attachments:  
As per above

**SECRET**

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*File: USA*

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SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM  
 UNCLASSIFIED ☒ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ SECRET ☐

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <b>Classification Control Officer</b>		
2	<b>GH-0924, Headquarters</b>		
3			
4			
5			
6			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Forwarded on this date the documents listed along with originals of the attached fgh

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-bottom: 5px;">15/</div> FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	DATE <b>7/12/63</b>
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**CIA Records Administration Officer/DBS**

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14 October 1963

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] Records Administration  
Officer/DDS

STATINTL

SUBJECT: Your routing slip of 12 July 1963 via Mr. John  
[REDACTED] Classification Control Officer, con-  
cerning a request by National Archives and  
Records Services of 9 July 1963 for downgrading  
"ART LOOTING DOCUMENTS - Germany, WW II".

1. It is requested that you notify Mr. Sherrod East,  
Director WW II Records Division of National Archives and  
Records Service, that delay in processing his request has been  
due to the need for further investigation.

2. Every effort is being made and it is hoped that a  
decision can be made on the question within a short time.

STATINTL

Sincerely /

[REDACTED]  
Executive Secretary  
Strategic Services Unit

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



*National Archives and Records Service*  
*Washington 25, D.C.*

July 9, 1963

IN REPLY REFER TO: NMWR

25X1A

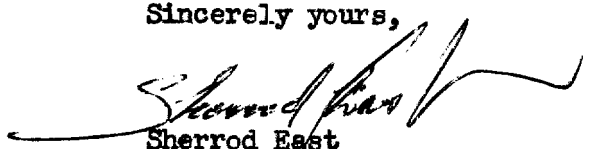
[Redacted]  
Records Administration Officer  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E. Street N.W.  
Washington 25, D.C.

25X1A

[Redacted]  
The National Archives has received requests for the Interrogation Reports of the Art Looting Investigation Unit, OSS, and the Strategic Services Unit, Office of the Assistant Secretary of War. Some of these reports were forwarded by the Department of State to your office in 1959, with a request for declassification. At that time CIA consensus was not favorable toward declassification and release. In view of the current interest in the subject of art looting and the lapse of time from the last review, we request reconsideration of the previous action on the reports transmitted with this letter.

The latest regrading action of the Department of the Army on Consolidated Report No. 4, Linz is reflected on that document and in The Adjutant General's letter of May 2, 1963, copy enclosed. It appears that the Army will take review and regrading action only on Strategic Services Unit documents produced after October 1, 1945.

Sincerely yours,

  
Sherrod East  
Director, World War II Records  
Division

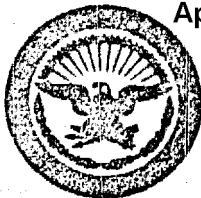
Enclosures

STATINTL

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HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAR-S (3038)

MAY 2 1963

Mr. Sherrod East  
Director, World War II Records Division  
National Archives and Records Service, GSA  
King and Union Streets  
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mr. East:

Reference is made to your request for a declassification review of  
Cir #4 - Lins.

With two exceptions this record has now been regraded UNCLASSIFIED.  
The exceptions are Page 34, which is missing, and one of the attachments,  
which is an OSS document. The Army does not have unilateral authority to  
declassify this OSS document but it has no objections to its declassification.

In connection with propriety of release your attention is invited to  
the following pages which contain allegations against individuals.

Page 39 - 4th line from the bottom of the page.  
Page 48 - 2nd paragraph.  
Page 52 - 1st word "shady".  
Page 53 - (5) 2nd paragraph - last two lines

The entire document remains classified CONFIDENTIAL because of the  
retention of the classification on the OSS document. However, with its  
deletion the balance of the document is UNCLASSIFIED.

Sincerely yours,

1 Enclosure

*J. C. Lambert*  
J. C. LAMBERT *adm*  
Major General, USA  
The Adjutant General

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REGRADDED UNCLASSIFIED  
WHEN SEPARATED FROM  
CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES